

THE KING,
THE CROSS



AND THE MEANING OF
EASTER

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WHO IS IN CONTROL?

We all know the panic of a crisis. A cursory glance at recent history teaches us the result and impact of economic collapse, violent war, political insecurity, and global pandemic. In these moments of crisis, our eyes turn to world leaders in the hope that they will be able to give us an answer or solution. We tune into the news briefings of politicians that we might have previously ignored, now hanging on their every word.

Yet however good their efforts are, however hard they try, they know (and we know) that their ability to control a crisis is incredibly limited. There is only so much they can do. Faced with an impossible situation, human leaders are finite

in power and insight. That is not a criticism; that is just hard reality.

So, if presidents and prime ministers are not in control, then who is? Many of us have cause to ask this question in times of crisis and unrest.

The very same question stands at the heart of Easter. The story of a crucified man who rose from the dead may be familiar to us, but, as a result, we can easily miss or overlook what it is really all about. Despite all appearances to the contrary, the man who died on Good Friday and rose again three days later is really the true ruler of all things. Jesus is the one in supreme control, even at the very moment when things seem most out of control.

It may feel as if our present days are dark. Recent years have brought true crisis and catastrophe to so many in our unsettled world. But as we enter into the Easter story once more, we are, in fact, entering into the account of the very darkest days the world has ever known. It is precisely in this moment of darkness and chaos that the Bible shows us the true authority of Jesus Christ.

Who is in control? To answer that question we simply need to immerse ourselves in the Easter narrative, to look at its key characters, and to allow the story to unfold on its own terms.